

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9763

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: FOOD SUPPLIES IN CENTRAL ASIA

1. SUMMARY. CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLIC CAPITALS SEEM BOUNTIFULLY BLESSED WITH ALL GRADES OF MEAT (EXCEPT PORK), BREADS AND FRUITS AND MUST SURELY BE THE ENVY OF THEIR NORTHERN NEIGHBORS. END SUMMARY.

2. DAO TRAVEL THROUGH CENTRAL ASIA LATE JANUARY ASCERTAINED A PLENTIFUL FOOD SITUATION. THREE GASTRONOMES VISITED LATE AFTERNOON JANUARY 28 IN ALMA-ATA OFFERED GOOD QUANTITIES OF SECOND RATE BEEF AT 1.90, HAM AT 3.50, SALAMI AT 3.00, BACON FOR 2.50, LIVER AT .78 AND HEADS AT .49, CHOPS FOR 3.50, AND PORK FAT FROM 1.40 TO 1.70. CHICKEN WAS ABUNDANT FROM 1.61 TO 3.20 BUT MUTTON WAS NOT AVAILABLE. GOOD SUPPLIES OF EGGS FROM .80 TO 1.20, MARGERINE (NO BUTTER) FROM .38 TO .43 AND BREAD -- WHITE .26 AND VARIETIES OF BROWN .10 TO .20 WERE OBSERVED.

3. MORNING VISITS TO CENTRAL MARKET AND GASTRONOME IN FRUNZE FOUND PORK HUNKS AT 2.50 AND SALTED BACON FOR 3.50 AT THE FORMER BUT ONLY PORK FAT FROM 1.50 TO 1.70 AT THE LATTER. THE MARKET ALSO OFFERED A GOOD
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GRADE OF BEEF FOR 3.50 AND LONG LINES FOR MUTTON AT

UNDETERMINED PRICE. THE CENTRAL GASTRONOME HAD GOOD QUANTITIES OF SECOND QUALITY BEEF AT 1.85, MUTTO AT 3.50 AND WHITE BREAD AT .30 FOR A LINE OF BREAD SHOPPERS. CHICKEN WAS NOT AVAILABLE AND ONLY DIETETIC EGGS AT .95 WERE OBSERVED. BUTTER WAS PLENTIFUL AT 3.50 AS WERE BEAUTIFUL, LARGE APPLES AT .90.

4. CENTRAL MARKET IN DUSHANBE HAD ADEQUATE EARLY MORNING OFFERINGS OF SECOND GRADE BEEF AT 1.90, TONGUE AT 3.50, FATTY MUTTON AT 1.40 AND CHOICE MUTTON AT 5.00 AND LIMITED SUPPLIES OF SMALL CHICKENS AT 5.00 EACH AND LARGE ONES FOR 10.00. NO PORK WAS OBSERVED AND ONLY LIMITED SUPPLIES OF EGGS AT 1.20. EXCELLENT BREAD SUPPLIES FROM .06 TO .26 WERE AVAILABLE.

5. SMALL GASTRONOME AND BREAD STORE ON REGISTRAN IN SAMARKAND OFFERED ONLY BEEF FAT AT 3.50 AND LAMB FAT AT 1.70 IN GOOD QUANTITY TOGETHER WITH BUTTER AT 3.40. BREAD SUPPLIES WERE GOOD FROM .06 TO .30.

6. SEVERAL STORES IN CENTRAL BUKHARA HAD FIRST QUALITY BEEF AND MUTTON AT 3.00 AND LAMB FAT FROM 1.40 TO 1.70. NO PORK WAS OBSERVED AND ONLY LIMITED QUANTITIES OF CHICKEN AT 2.50. GOOD SUPPLIES OF EGGS AT 1.30, BUTTER FROM 3.30 TO 3TP AND BREAD FROM .15 TO .30 WERE OFFERED. SHOPPER STOOD IN LONG LINES FOR FISH (NO PRICE NOTED).
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